

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Kiyotaka Matsuno, et al.

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Dated: February 6, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 8-280701, dated October 29, 1996.

Applicants are submitting a copy of the above-cited reference. The relevance of the above-identified reference has been described in the specification.

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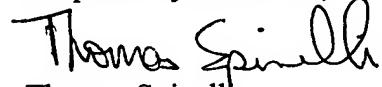
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 6, 2002

Dated: February 6, 2002

Mishelle Mustafa

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,


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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.